





# MARYLAND COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

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“Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them.”

JEFFERSON.

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## DR. ALEXANDER ON AFRICAN COLONIZATION.

MANY months have elapsed since the issue of this work from the press; but it has not been our good fortune to find a copy on sale or loan, until we met with it in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Pinney, at the late annual meeting of the American Colonization Society at Washington, who seemed to be acting a very friendly part towards the publishers and proprietors, in offering it to the friends of the cause there present. We have repeatedly enquired for the work, in vain, at the principal Book Stores of this city, and cannot imagine the reason of its not having been offered here.

It is unnecessary to say, that we have perused this volume of 600 pages, upon a subject which has become, to us, the “all of life,” with the deepest interest, and probably with feelings experienced by few others. In following the thread of the narrative, down to the time of our earliest connexion with the Colonies in 1831, we are brought into contact with old friends, and re-pass through scenes, dimly seen through a long vista of years of change and turmoil, and only now made clear to memory through the assistance of the written page. We fancy ourselves again traversing the shrubby, rocky streets of Cape Messurado on our old sorry-looking donkey, with pockets stuffed with physic and condiments—or winding through the tortuous Stockton creek, hedged in by the impenetrable mangrove, cheered only by the monotonous chorus of the kroomen, to go through the “Long Houses” of the new emigrants at Caldwell. We again hear the details of the sufferings, trials, hardships, and the battles for freedom and existence by the pioneers in this great effort, from some patriarch of the “Old Ship Elizabeth”—or listen to the pathetic and tearful narrative of private sorrows and griefs. We seem again to pass through all the scenes of that most eventful period of the Colony—the political struggles, the Bromley war—the rapidly extending commerce—the influx of some six hundred new emigrants—and the distressing consequences attendant upon so injudicious a measure.

Independent of such reminiscences of the past, the perusal of this work has excited in us new zeal and interest in the cause and the Colonies. This embodying of all the great and leading facts, forming the history of the Colony; this marshalling of the hosts of the great and good of our nation,

who have from first to last given in their adherence to the plan of Colonization, and the testimony of almost numberless disinterested eye-witnesses of unimpeachable integrity, who have declared to the world their conviction of the full success of this great experiment, has strengthened our heart and increased our faith. It has expelled all doubt, and wrought in us the deep conviction, that this great work must prosper—must be triumphantly successful.

If, therefore, this bare recapitulation of events long since familiar to us—this refreshing the memory with scenes of which we once felt ourselves to be a part—has served to stimulate *our* zeal in this cause, and to strengthen *our* confidence in its success—how powerful must be its influence upon those heretofore uninterested, or imperfectly acquainted with the subject of which it treats—or who have acquired a prejudice against it from the libelous publications of the Abolitionists, or the sneers and imbecile arguments of those who view the African as naturally inferior to all other varieties of the human race?

Under the firm belief that its candid perusal will produce, in every unprejudiced mind, a full conviction of the charity—of the philanthropy—of the glory and of the *practicability* of this great, but much abused scheme of “African Colonization,” we most earnestly urge it upon the attention of our readers; upon those who believe or disbelieve; upon the interested and indifferent; upon those who believe the African to be a man or a monkey—being fully confident, that no one can finish the work, without a conviction that the colored man is susceptible of the highest mental improvement, and that Africa will yet become a land of Religion, Liberty and Law.

Having said thus much of this work, in general terms, we may be permitted to speak more particularly, not only of its merits, but what we conceive to be its defects, disclaiming, however, the assumption of the office or attitude of a critic, or presuming to speak of it as a literary production, trusting that it will be considered the legitimate business of the Editor of a Colonization journal—one too, who, from a long residence in the Colonies, feels the deepest interest in their welfare—to express his opinions upon a subject so important as their “History.”

One of the greatest benefits resulting from the publication of this work—greater, because it affects those who read it, and those who read it not—is, that Dr. Alexander has given it the sanction of his name—that he has voluntarily enrolled himself as the Historian of “African Colonization.” This act, too, derives still greater importance from the fact, that by it, the author has assumed entirely different ground from a majority of those with whom he is united by religious faith, and intimately associated in various charitable and religious institutions.

It will be recollected by most of those interested in such matters, that some four years since, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, at one of its annual meetings, in consequence of some disagreement between their Missionary at Cape Palmas, the Rev. J. L. Wilson, and the Governor of the Colony, adopted and published a Report, sanctioned by the name of a high judicial functionary of the State of New York, the Hon. Reuben Walworth, reflecting unmerited censure upon the character of that

Colony and its Officers, and upon the policy of the Maryland St. Col. Society ; embodying statements, since proved to be incorrect, and deducing inferences from other data, wholly unwarrantable. The effect of this Report, and the action of the American Board thereon, was immediately felt, not only by the Maryland, but by the American Colonization Societies, and to such an extent, that the officers of the latter, in the northern States, were obliged to come out and declare themselves in no way connected with the Maryland State Colonization Society, or responsible for its acts. The promulgation of this Report, as far as the influence of the Am. Board extended, embracing the Congregational and Presbyterian churches, was in fact paramount to a Papal Interdict in the Catholic church ; and from that day to this, the Maryland State Colonization Society has not received one dollar from any church of that denomination in the State of Maryland. The effect of the movement was, not only to cripple the Society in its operations—to sow distrust among its friends of all religious denominations—but to comfort and succor the enemy, the Abolitionists, who most greedily seized upon the Report as confirmatory of their vile slanders of the Colonists, and their misrepresentations of the policy and objects of the Colonization Societies.

Not long after the promulgation of this report, there appeared in the "Biblical Repertory," a review of "Mr. Kennedy's Report on African Colonization," in the House of Representatives, said to be from the pen of Dr. Alexander, containing a most able exposition of the system, completely vindicating the societies and colonies from all objections and aspersions of their enemies, open or concealed, declaring the "*enterprise*," to use his own words, "*to be the most important commenced in any part of the world since we began life ; and that the success which has attended it, considering the feebleness of the means and the scantiness of the resources of the society, is one of the most extraordinary events in the history of the world.*" Soon followed the annunciation of the work now before us, for which he is entitled to the thanks of every true friend of Africa and the African, and to the gratitude of every citizen of Liberia: not only that he has thus espoused that cause, which alone promises relief to the oppressed Africo-American, but rescued from unmerited detraction, those who have left home, kindred and birth-place, for an asylum in a foreign and barbarous land.

As our time will not permit us to speak further of this work at present, we cannot better fill our pages than by copying entire the "Introduction," which contains the author's views of the subject in general, properly speaking his creed on African Colonization, the perusal of which, cannot fail of gratifying our readers.

#### "INTRODUCTION.

"The best method of disposing of the free people of colour, so as to promote the highest interests both of them and the citizens of this country, among whom they dwell, is a subject of momentous consequence, concerning which very different opinions have been entertained. The idea of providing a place for them on the coast of Africa, met the views of a large number of the most intelligent and benevolent men in this country ; and the apparent difficulty, if not impracticability, of removing so great a number of persons to such a distance, furnished, for a long time, the only ob-



jection to the enterprise. The obstacles were indeed very formidable, and would have discouraged the efforts of any men not animated by a noble enthusiasm in the cause of humanity. The first difficulty was to obtain a territory on the coast of Africa—a country possessed by numerous savage tribes, all deeply engaged in the slave trade, and jealous of every body, and every measure, which might possibly interfere with this nefarious traffic. The legislature of the state of Virginia had made an effort, through the President of the United States, to acquire such a territory, but without success. How then could it be expected, that a voluntary association, without funds, and without the aid of civil government, would be able to plant a colony on the shores of a continent more than three thousand miles distant? But great as were the obstacles in the way of success in this enterprise, they have been overcome.

LIBERIA, not only exists, but is in a flourishing condition. Perhaps no colony has ever existed where so much that is calculated to render society respectable and happy, was to be found. An undoubted right to a territory of considerable extent has been secured, by fair purchase, from the native kings and chiefs. The country is uncommonly beautiful and fertile, and to the natives, or those who are acclimated, as healthy as any country in the world. The people of the colony live in comfortable houses, and are plentifully supplied with food, with moderate labour. The country is also well situated for commerce, by attention to which, a number of persons have acquired a handsome property, and live in as much elegance and affluence as the majority of merchants in this country. The privileges and security of a regular republican government are fully enjoyed. The people choose their own representatives, and have a legislature and judiciary of their own choice, and their own colour: the only officer appointed by the board of managers in this country is the governor; and for some years, this office has been filled, both at Monrovia, and Cape Palmas, by coloured men. From all accounts, there is as much good order, morality, and subjection to law, in Liberia, as in any other country; and the evidence of it is, the peaceful state of society, and the small number of convictions for transgression of the laws.

"The community of Liberia is also distinguished for its schools and religious privileges. Nearly all the children of the colony have the opportunity of attending school; and almost the whole population are in the habit of regular attendance on public worship, on the Sabbath; and we do not know any community upon earth, where so great a proportion of the people are serious professors of religion. All intelligent persons who have visited the country, however strong their prejudices against the colony before, have come away very favourably impressed in regard to its prosperous condition; and all visitors have concurred in declaring, that the people appeared, almost universally, to be contented with their condition, and to entertain no wish to return to this country. The problem has been fairly solved, that the coloured race are as capable of improvement as the whites, and in every department of government, they have manifested sound sense and discretion, equal to what could have been expected from people of any other nation, with no greater advantages of education than they have enjoyed. Indeed, we have not seen any state papers which indicate a sounder judgment, and more just discernment of the true interests of the colony, than those of Governor Roberts. Even in his correspondence with officers of the British navy, on points of international law, he appears to great advantage; and we understand, that the administration of Governor Russwurm has given such entire satisfaction to the Maryland Colonization Board, that they are extremely unwilling that he should resign his office.

"Two things, in relation to the native Africans, deserve special attention;

the first is, that several hundred natives recaptured from slave ships, have been settled in the colony, in a village by themselves, and are now among the most orderly and industrious of the citizens, having, for the most part, embraced Christianity, and possessing schools and churches, where young and old attend with as much order and solemnity as in any civilized country.

"The other is, that many thousands of the natives choose to reside within the territory of Liberia, for the sake of security and peace, which they there enjoy, and willingly obey the laws of the colony.

"And although hostile and formidable attacks were made on the colonists, when they were few in number, so that their preservation must be ascribed to the remarkable interposition of Providence—yet, now, they are free from all apprehension of danger, and are at peace with all the surrounding tribes. And so high is the opinion entertained of the government of the colony, that frequently, the disputes among the neighbouring tribes are referred to them for arbitration.

"The influence of the colony in putting an end to the slave trade, has been confessedly great. The coast now possessed by the colony, had long been famous for this inhuman traffic; but now along a coast of three hundred miles, there is not more than one or two places where any slaver dares enter. It may truly be said, that more has been done by the establishment of this little republic of freemen, to suppress the slave trade, than by the combined operations of both the British and American navies. Reflecting men, both in Great Britain and in this country, seem now to be convinced, that the only effectual method of putting an end to the slave trade is to plant colonies along the coast, and to make trading and agricultural establishments in every accessible part of the interior.

"Whether this colony was commenced in wisdom, or imprudently, it now exists, and cannot be abandoned. There it stands on the savage coast of Africa, and is likely to exist for a long time to come. Hitherto, no ill consequence has followed from the prosecution of the scheme of colonization; except the sacrifice of a number of valuable lives on a coast peculiarly unfavourable to the constitution of white men. It has provided a home for some thousands of coloured people, a large portion of whom exchanged slavery for freedom, and a degraded condition in society for one of independence and dignity. Who can doubt that the colonists of Liberia are in a far more eligible state, than if they had remained in this country? And who can tell the beneficial influence which they may hereafter exert on the native inhabitants of the dark continent of Africa? This little free republic may, for aught we know, be the germ of a great and flourishing empire. Look back three hundred years, and you will see a few feeble colonies of Europeans, struggling with the most formidable difficulties, and often on the very verge of extinction, and now behold these small colonies grown to be one of the most powerful nations upon earth; extending its commerce to every quarter of the habitable globe; producing by agriculture, in rich abundance, all the articles most necessary for man's subsistence, and manufacturing clothing far more than is needed by its twenty million of inhabitants. Let it be considered, that the same benignant Providence which watched over this rising country, and raised it to its present eminence among the nations of the earth, has also smiled on the infant republic of Liberia. The indications of Divine favour toward this colony have been most marked, and some of them truly extraordinary, as will most fully appear, in the events recorded in the following history.

"The principal difficulties have been encountered and overcome. A work has been achieved, by a few indefatigable and philanthropic men, which, to posterity, will, we doubt not, appear the most interesting and remarkable

event of the first part of the nineteenth century. No such work was ever before accomplished by means so inadequate. Unless Providence had signally prospered the enterprise, the object could never have been realized. It is to us, who have with interest marked every disaster, and every step of the progress, a most astonishing object of contemplation, that a private association, in a little more than twenty years, should by voluntary contributions, without the aid of the general government, have been able to establish a well ordered and happy republic on the desert shores of Africa, at the distance of three or four thousand miles! This is, indeed, a thing which would scarcely be credited, if its truth depended on common historical testimony.

"The idea of removing all the coloured population of this country, has been ridiculed as fanciful and impracticable. But however short the enterprise may come of accomplishing all that would be desirable, in regard to this unhappy race, yet let it be kept in mind, that whatever may be accomplished, is so much clear gain; gain to those who go, by greatly meliorating their condition; gain to those who stay, by diminishing their number; gain to the white population who desire to be exempt from this class of people, and prospectively an inconceivable gain to Africa, by kindling on her borders the lights of Christianity, civilization, and useful science. If not another individual should be added to the colony from this country, Liberia may still flourish and increase, and become a rich blessing to benighted Africa. It should be remembered, however that the American Colonization Society never proposed such a thing, as the object of its institution, as the removal to Africa of the whole coloured population of this country. Their plan embraced no others than free people; they carefully avoided any interference with those held in bondage by the laws of the States where they reside. The only influence which the Colonization scheme can have on slavery is indirect: by furnishing a comfortable asylum for such as are free. Many conscientious and benevolent slaveholders, who were restrained from emancipating their slaves, from the consideration that there was no place to which they could be advantageously sent, upon seeing that the colony in Africa furnished such an asylum as they wished, have been induced to liberate their slaves, and in a number of instances, to furnish them with every thing necessary for the voyage, and in some cases, besides giving them an outfit, have generously paid their passage. The Colonization Society, therefore, while it never proposed emancipation as its object, has done more incidentally, to promote emancipation, than all the Abolition societies in the country. Indeed, these have, as far as is known to us, redeemed no slaves from bondage, but without intending it, have, by the course which they have pursued, riveted the chains which confine the slaves more closely than ever. No one has a right to complain on account of the emancipation of slaves, by the will and free consent of their owners. The Abolitionists, if sincere in their professions, ought to rejoice in every instance of the kind; and the advocates of slavery, have no right to complain, for the fewer the number left, the more valuable their services. But if Liberia should continue to flourish and increase, it is not so improbable as many suppose, that the greater part of the African race, now in this country, will in the inscrutable dispensations of Providence, be restored to the country of their fathers. Why so many of this unhappy race were ever permitted to be brought to America, begins now to appear. They were sent here by a benignant Providence overruling the wicked passions of avaricious men, that they might be christianized and civilized, and might carry back to their benighted countrymen, the principles of religion, freedom, and representative government.



"But whether these hopes shall ever be realized or not, much good for Africa may be effected by the Colonization enterprise, much good has already been effected, and the beneficial results of the colony will not stop here. Every thing is in progress; and the time, even the set time to favour this long benighted land, is drawing near. No instrumentality is so likely to be effectual to bring light and civilization to her tribes, as the return of her own sons.

"If the pagans of Africa are ever converted, as we believe they will be, it must be by the preaching of the gospel, and in order to do this, missionaries must be sent; and it is manifest, that the existence of Christian colonies in that country, will furnish a degree of safety to preachers of the gospel which they could not otherwise enjoy; and afford facilities for introducing the gospel into the interior, which in no other way could be had. Already these little settlements on the coast of Africa, have become fields for missionary labour; for the natives continue to dwell in the territory ceded to the colony, and while they are under the civil jurisdiction of its government, they retain their own towns and personal property. It is true, that at Cape Palmas, some misunderstanding took place between the government and the missionaries of the American Board, but this furnishes no argument against the utility of colonies as auxiliaries to missions. The occasion of this difference may have been owing to undue rigour in administering the laws, or it may have been owing to unreasonable demands and expectations on the part of the missionaries; on this subject we wish to express no opinion; but surely this difference of opinion between the officers of government and the missionaries, does not in the least prove that the existence of colonies may not be highly beneficial to the operations of missionaries among the heathen. Other missionaries at this same place have found the vicinity of the colony important; and in one instance, a worthy missionary was exposed to imminent danger from the violence of the savages, from which he was delivered by the seasonable arrival of one of our vessels of war; but had there been no colony there, no such relief would have been experienced. Missionaries greatly need the aid and protection of civil authority, as appears by the present unhappy condition of the islands in the Pacific. All that can reasonably be inferred from the unpleasant disagreement alluded to, is, that missionaries should be very careful to submit to the laws and obey the orders which may be found necessary for the welfare of the colonies where they reside, and gratefully to accept the protection and facilities for introducing the gospel, afforded by the colonies. And Christian rulers in these colonies, should do every thing in their power to aid the missionaries in their arduous work of propagating the gospel among the surrounding pagan tribes. But it is not an unfounded expectation, that the colonists themselves will establish missions among the heathen in their vicinity, for they have already commenced the work. Both the Methodist and Baptist denominations have engaged in this work, and not without encouraging success. Indeed, it is our belief, that this great work of evangelizing Africa, will be accomplished, not so much by missionaries sent from abroad, as by the zeal and Christian enterprise of the various colonies which from time to time will be planted along the whole western coast of Africa. Some very interesting facts have recently occurred, in relation to this subject, in the colony of Sierra Leone. A number of recaptured Africans from countries in the interior, after being instructed in the doctrines of Christianity, were desirous of revisiting their native land; and accordingly were furnished with the means of returning to their friends. The communications of these converted Africans, prepared the way for a visit from missionaries, sent out from Sierra Leone, who have been cordially received by the king

of a region of which little was heretofore known ; and there is now a pleasing prospect of propagating the gospel in this benighted region. And it is a well ascertained fact, that some of the African nations, among the most cruel that ever lived upon earth, appear now disposed to receive missionaries, and pay attention to the gospel. Were it not that the climate of Africa is so inimical to the constitution of the white man, there is not a country on the globe, where there is stronger encouragement to missionary efforts. But it seems the ordination of Heaven, that Africa shall be regenerated by the instrumentality of her own sons, chiefly. And it is an interesting fact, that already from among the emancipated slaves of the West Indies, missionaries have gone, or are preparing to go to Africa, to carry the glorious gospel to their benighted countrymen. This view of the effect of the Colonization scheme, is to our minds the most animating of all others. The redemption of Africa from the cruel tyranny of the prince of darkness, and from the most miserable and degrading bondage of the cruelest superstition upon earth, is the object on which our hopes are fixed : and we do believe from the signs of the times, that the period is not far distant, when 'Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands unto God,' and we confidently expect, that the American Colonization scheme will act an important part in achieving this great work.

"A most unreasonable opinion was hastily taken up by Abolitionists, founded on some unguarded expressions of Southern men, at the first public meeting to form a Colonization society at Washington, that one object, or rather tendency of the institution was, to render the property in slaves more valuable, by removing from among them the free people of colour, by whom they were greatly corrupted. These declarations of individual slaveholders, perfectly innocent when properly understood, were attributed to the society, and tortured into a meaning as foreign from the views of Colonizationists, as they are from those of Abolitionists. As has been repeatedly said, the originators and founders of this society, whatever they might think of slavery, determined to engage in a benevolent enterprise, which should aim to accomplish a great good, without meddling with a subject so exciting, and so difficult to be disposed of, as that of American slavery. They did not even suppose that the scheme which they intended to prosecute, would either stand in the way of any efforts to bring about emancipation, or that it would be a substitute for schemes of this kind. They did, indeed, foresee that, if the enterprise should prove successful, and a well ordered colony should be established in Africa, it would enable those slaveholders, who, from whatever motive, wished to get clear of their slaves, to send them to an asylum, where they would have every opportunity of enjoying the privileges of freemen. But this is in perfect harmony with the laws of most, if not all the slaveholding States, which permit every man who chooses, to liberate his slaves, provided he send them out of the State.

"But how the Colonization scheme should have any tendency to perpetuate slavery, is utterly inconceivable. For, though it interfere not with the existing relations between master and servant, as established by law ; yet the more slaves are emancipated, the greater work is before them, and the greater the need of some plan by which they might be removed. And so far from tending to perpetuate slavery, if all the slaves in the country were now emancipated, the need of such a scheme would be ten times more urgent than it is at present ; because there would be ten times as many persons thrown into a helpless, degraded state, without the means of comfortable subsistence. The Abolitionists, therefore, instead of setting themselves in opposition to this scheme, ought to have hailed it as one calculated to provide a comfortable residence for all whose emancipation they might be

able to effect. Two races of men, nearly equal in numbers, but differing as much as the whites and blacks, cannot form one harmonious society in any other way than by amalgamation; but the whites and blacks in this country, by no human efforts, could be amalgamated into one homogeneous mass in a thousand years; and during this long period, the state of society would be perpetually disturbed by many contending factions. Either the whites must remove and give up the country to the coloured people, or the coloured people must be removed: otherwise the latter must remain in subjection to the former. And the question for the philanthropist to decide is, whether the relation of master and servant as now existing, or a state of degradation, such as the free people of colour are now labouring under, be the most eligible. In the former case, the weak and poor have a patron and protector, and a kind feeling is generated between the master and servant, where they are disposed to perform, respectively, their relative duties; but, in the other case, the poor coloured race are mere outcasts from society; and no feeling of kindness, but only of contempt and dislike, is generally entertained towards them by the whites, because they are everywhere considered, with few exceptions, bad members of society. And their condition in the free States is not better than in the slave States, but worse. It does appear, therefore, that we cannot benefit the slaves by obtaining liberty for them in this country; and that liberty which brings with it no benefit, but an increase of misery, is a poor boon. It does appear to me—and I have for a long time most earnestly considered the subject—that we can confer a real benefit on the African race in no other way than by separating them from the whites, and removing them to the country of their fathers, which is still congenial to their constitution. There are thousands of slaveholders who would give up their slaves, if they were fully satisfied that Liberia would be permanently a safe and comfortable abode for them. The attention of many people of the South is now directed intensely towards this rising colony; and more, many are now educating their younger slaves, with some view to a future residence in that land of promise. And the noble example of McDonogh will be followed substantially by many.

“In the vast continent of Africa, there are extensive regions which lie uncultivated. It is for the benefit of the human race that men should not be crowded together in dense masses, while so many countries, naturally fertile, are inhabited only by wild beasts, or are roamed over by a few miserable savages. Large cities are justly termed, by a sagacious politician, “great sores” on the body politic. Even in our largest cities, which are comparatively of modern origin, one-fifth of the population, so far from adding to the strength or riches of the community, hang as a dead weight upon the industrious and useful inhabitants. How much better would it be, to have a large portion of these settled on the fresh soil of our extensive territories! America however, is in a fair way of having all her valuable lands inhabited and cultivated. The discovery of this continent, and its colonization by Europeans, has been one of the most important events which has occurred for centuries. Millions have found an asylum and a comfortable home here, who, with their posterity, would have been poor and miserable in their native countries. But who shall people the wild regions of Africa? Undoubtedly it is the will of the great Parent of the human race, that this wide continent should be possessed and cultivated by mankind. But Africa is not the country for white men. Europeans cannot colonize these regions, the climate is so deleterious to their constitution: and the same is true of Americans. If ever Africa is settled and occupied, it must be by her sons, scattered over the face of this western world. For although generations have passed away since the forefathers of the present race of coloured

people were dragged from their native land, yet it is found by experience, that Africa is a climate adapted to the constitution of the coloured men of this continent. As far as experience has been had, no people are more exempt from disease, after the acclimating fever has been past through, than the inhabitants of Liberia. It seems plainly, therefore, to be the duty and the interest of the coloured race in this country, where every thing is so unfavourable to their rising to their proper level in society, to turn their eyes to Africa, where there is a free and happy republic, composed and governed entirely by men of their own colour; and where every honest citizen feels that he stands upon an equality with any other man in the world. And it behooves those who industriously sow prejudices against Colonization, in the minds of the free people of colour, to consider what injury they may be inflicting on them and their posterity. Let them either propose some method by which these degraded and trodden down people may be rendered more comfortable and respectable here, or let them not throw obstacles in the way of their emigration to a country where they might have the opportunity of enjoying the real blessings of freedom. It is in vain to declaim about the prejudice of colour; however unreasonable, it will long continue to exist, and will prove an effectual bar to the possession and enjoyment of the same privileges and advantages which the white population enjoy. If I were a coloured man, I would not hesitate a moment to relinquish a country where a black skin and the lowest degree of degradation are so identified, that scarcely any manifestation of talent, or course of good conduct, can entirely overcome the prejudice which exists; and which is as strong, if not stronger, in the free, than in the slaveholding States: and I would use every exertion to reach a land, where it is no crime, and no dishonour, to appear in a coloured skin—a country where no white superiors exist to look down with contempt upon the coloured race, but where they are the lords of the soil, and the rulers of the nation. I cannot but admire the honest ambition and noble daring of the first emigrants from this country to Africa. Then no Liberia existed. The Society did not own one foot of ground on that continent, and it was extremely doubtful whether they would be able to obtain any territory for a colony. Yet these lion-hearted men, resolved to run every risk; took, as it were, their lives in their hands. They went out, like Abraham, not knowing whither they went, or what destiny awaited them. And the event has proved, that they were called by the Providence of God, to engage in this hazardous enterprise. And I cannot but feel pity for the grovelling views of many coloured men, now residing in a state of degradation, in this country, who, in Liberia, might rise to wealth and independence, and, perhaps, to high and honorable office.

“One of the first laws given to man, and which is still in full force, was, “Replenish the earth and subdue it;” and after the deluge, God signally rebuked the determination of the people to remain together, by confounding their language, and thus scattering them over the face of the earth. The object of the multitude in erecting this immense tower is plainly declared to have been, “lest they should be scattered abroad on the face of the whole earth;” and the object of the Almighty in the stupendous miracle, now wrought, by which the language of the people was confounded, is distinctly declared to have been, “to scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.” It is, therefore, plainly the will of God that the human race should not collect in dense bodies in some particular parts of the world, while large tracts of habitable land lie desert and uncultivated. The command “to replenish the earth and subdue it,” is still in full force. And to what people does it equally belong to possess and cultivate the extensive and fertile re-



gions of Africa, as to the sons of Africa in this country, who need a home, where they may enjoy equal privileges with others, and where they may be the instruments of diffusing among the barbarous natives the lights of Christianity and civilization? If ever the negro race are raised from their degraded state of ignorance and vice, in Africa, it will probably be by the return of the descendants of that race spread over so large a part of this western continent, and over the West India Islands. If the wise and benevolent plan of civilizing Africa, and putting an end to the slave trade, devised by Sir Folsom Buxton, and which was attempted to be carried into effect at so great expense of life and money, had adopted the principle of sending back the emancipated negroes from the British colonies in the West India Islands, instead of attempting to settle colonies of white Europeans in the deleterious climate of Africa, the object sought, so important and desirable, would, in all probability, have been accomplished. And if the colony of Sierra Leone, should need to be recruited, it will be found expedient to invite the most enterprising and best educated of the negroes of the West Indies, to emigrate to that country.

"The present difficulties of Liberia, in consequence of the ungenerous conduct of certain officers of the British navy towards the unoffending colonists, will, it is presumed, be of short duration. It would be an indelible reproach to the magnanimous government of Great Britain, to be the means of destroying or injuring an infant republic, just starting into existence, under the most favourable auspices. Liberia may be considered as a star of promise which twinkles in the dense darkness which overshadows the African continent. This community may be said, without exaggeration, to be the most extraordinary upon earth, when all the circumstances of its origin and progress are taken into view. Providence has evidently and remarkably smiled on the enterprise, and, we trust with confidence, will defend it against all who may attempt its destruction. Let those, then, who oppose the scheme of African Colonization, beware, lest they be found resisting what God approves. As for himself, the writer is as fully persuaded that the plan of colonizing the free people of colour in Africa, is wise and benevolent, as he ever was of the wisdom and benevolence of any human enterprise.

ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER.

*Princeton, New Jersey, January 6th, 1846."*

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(From the Colonizationist.)

### GOV. PINNEY'S LETTER.

When at Cincinnati, a few weeks ago, in company with Gov. Pinney, we availed ourself of his intimate acquaintance with Liberia and all its interests, to obtain information upon a few points which we thought would be of practical importance to such of the coloured people of the west as may think of emigrating to that country. The reader may rely upon the answers here given, as Gov. Pinney was, for several years, a resident on the soil.

K.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, *November 28th, 1846.*

BROTHER KAVANAUGH:

*My Dear Sir*—Your kindness in coming to assist me at Cincinnati deserves a better return than I have given; but the delay in answering your questions has seemed to arise out of a necessity connected with my rapid journeyings and constant occupation. I steal some hours late at night from my other business this evening, lest I should omit it altogether.

*Question 1.* How do emigrants make a living in Liberia?

*Answer.* By their wits or by their work. Those who are competent to

act as teachers, can get from three to four hundred dollars a year for school teaching. Good accountants can get from six to eight hundred dollars as clerks in stores and mercantile houses. Tailors, shoemakers, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, shipwrights, &c., can find constant employment, at good wages, ordinarily. The farmer, in Liberia, can raise on his farm pretty good Indian corn, sweet potatoes, rice, sugar cane, cotton, indigo, arrow root, ginger, oranges, banana, plaintain, beans, grapes, pepper, and many other valuable vegetables and plants. He can raise hogs, poultry, cattle, catch abundant fish, and kill deer and other wild animals.

*Question 2.* How much land is necessary for a family of five persons?

*Answer.* This depends upon what they do, and their wealth. If a man goes out poor, as most of our freed slaves and many free people of colour do, fifteen or twenty acres will be all they will need for several years; because as it is always summer the land calls for labour all the year, and one man cannot ordinarily tend more. But any amount can be purchased for from seventy-five cents to one dollar per acre, as valuable as our new lands at the West.

*Question 3.* Has not all difficulty between the missionaries and governor ceased?

*Answer.* There never was any difficulty in the American Colonization Society's Colony, except with Rev. John Seys and Gov. Buchanan. Mr. Seys is now in the United States, and Gov. Buchanan has been dead for nearly five years. That was only a difference of opinion about a law which can never arise again. All the missionaries there, so far as I know, now submit to the laws, and are pursuing their work with the good will of the colonists and our Society.

*Question 4.* What is the whole length of the coast from the north western boundary of Liberia to its south eastern limit, including Maryland in Liberia and its territory?

*Answer.* From Cape Mount, forty miles north west of the town of Monrovia, the territory of the colony extends nearly four hundred and thirty miles, to its south eastern termination on the gulf of Guinea, one hundred miles east of Cape Palmas.

*Question 5.* Is it your opinion that cotton could be produced in Africa in sufficient quantities and quality to so fill the European market as to reduce its value in our southern market?

*Answer.* Africa, in all the tropics, is the natural home of an excellent quality of cotton, superior to our ordinary uplands of the South. The soil and climate are both favorable, and if the native kings of Africa could set their slaves at its cultivation, in the Southern method, I see not why they could not supply the world. They have slaves of so little value that thousands are sold in the interior for a mere trifle, and some on the coast for *ten or twelve dollars!* Mr. Buxton, in his able work, recommends to send out agents to teach them these advantages and offer them a regular market. This, however, will not, probably, occur for a long time, and before that day, I hope it will not be needed for the object you suggest.

*Question 6.* How does Liberia coffee compare with the best Java or West India coffee?

*Answer.* It is superior to any American, and by many considered equal to Java, in quality and value. It is the most productive species and soil in the world, and will, doubtless, yet prove of great profit to the Liberia farmer.

*Question 7.* Will it require as much labor to get a living in Liberia as in Indiana or Ohio?

*Answer.* No man, by farming, can get a living without labour, but in Li-

beria, there being no snow, or frost, or cold to provide against, a large portion of the labour needed here for keeping warm and comfortable, is not needed there, and as it is always summer, much less land will support a family.

Another consideration may here be added, viz: that many important plants and vegetables continue to grow and bear from year to year, with very little cultivation. Our garden lima bean *I have seen* covering by its vines, a good sized tree, where it had been growing and constantly bearing for *nine years!* Sweet potato vines are often, when pulled, replanted, and go on to bear more roots. The African potato, or cassada, grows for two years; the cotton plant bears for nine or ten years.

*Question 8.* Is not Liberia now as healthy as any part of the U. States?

*Answer.* *I think not.* It is healthier than some parts; and some settlements, as, for instance, that at Cape Palmas, are as healthy as the best countries in the world—I mean for older settlers. The deaths there for several years past, have not been *two per cent.* In some of the towns of the old colonies, the deaths are more, ranging from three per cent. to five and six per cent. The last is only true of the settlements of New Georgia and lower Caldwell, both of which are near the tide water swamp of the Mesurado river. The inhabitants of New Georgia are natives of Africa, and not American colonists, and may be injured in their health by changing their native style of living to become civilized.

*Question 9.* Cannot a prudent and industrious mechanic or merchant make money faster than in the United States?

*Answer.* I would not say faster. They can make money and get good wages—so can men here. The great advantages the coloured man gets by going to Africa are not as to his eating, or drinking, or wealth, but in his *social, political, and moral* position. He becomes a *man*. He is no longer despised as of another race, but treated as an equal and brother. If we cannot find coloured men who can appreciate such advantages, it is not very important to send others.

Let us set before them these advantages to themselves—the vast privileges which they will thus secure their children, and the noble prospect of suppressing the slave trade and civilizing Africa. May the Lord strengthen your hands and heart, and give you great success, is my sincere prayer.

I am your obliged brother,

J. B. PINNEY.

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### EPISCOPAL MISSIONS AT CAPE PALMAS.

We copy the following letters from the “Spirit of Missions,” of the present month, by which it will be perceived, that two members of that mission in the Maryland Colony, have died since our last previous advices, viz: the Rev. Mr. Messenger and Mrs. Patch, and that Dr. Savage has resigned his connexion with the mission, in consequence of ill health, and with his lady, is about to return to the United States. Mr. Payne, it will be perceived, emphatically enjoins the necessity of at least four additional missionaries the present year, in order to keep their present establishments in operation.

We also annex a circular, dated, Foreign Mission Office, N. Y. Jan. 30th, 1847, which alludes to the present state of the African mission, and announces that the Foreign Committee have resolved on arrangements for the return of each white missionary to this country every four years.

From other despatches contained in this Number of the Spirit of Missions, not copied below, there appears to be full evidence of the “*exter-*

nal" prosperity of the mission, and no bar or hindrance to its successful prosecution exists, except the unfriendliness of the climate to the constitution of the white man.

And does no remedy occur to the mind of the striving, afflicted, suffering white missionary, but to increase their numbers—to offer new victims upon the altar, or to protract a miserable, sickly existence by a temporary relief or resuscitation once in four years? Does not the full, healthy features and the stalwart, muscular forms of thousands of the sons of Africa, for whose welfare they are labouring, tell them that the climate of that continent is not unfriendly to man, but to the *white* man. Great physical laws as strongly secure that continent to the *black* man, as moral causes debar him from ever securing a foot-hold on this; and those who would resist these laws, strive against reason—against Providence. It is a great moral truth, which cannot be gainsayed or doubted, "that if Africa is ever to be regenerated, it must be through the instrumentality of her own returning children."

#### LETTER FROM DR. GEORGE A. PERKINS.

"ROCKBOOAH, W. A., June 26, 1846.

Since we last wrote you, we have passed an afflictive era in the history of this Mission. Death has entered our small band, and taken two of our number to their reward in heaven; and sickness has spared no individual of the Mission family.

Mrs. Patch died at Cavalla (where she had resided since her acclimation at Mt. Vaughan) on the 18th of March, after an illness of about ten days. Her disease was an acute inflammation of the liver. For several days I had strong hopes of her recovery, though I feared the worst might take place. From the first time I saw her, I found her system perfectly torpid to the influence of the most powerful medicines; and so it continued to be till her death. Mrs. P. had, unfortunately, a strong dislike to the use of medicines, and particularly to quinine, which you know is so indispensable in this climate, though informed that the very frequent attacks of ague and fever from which she suffered, would, if not checked, cause her serious, and perhaps irremediable, trouble. These attacks had increased in frequency, and her health was very poor for some months before her death. She was attacked on Sunday, the 8th of March, with a very severe chill, followed by a high fever, which did *not* (as usual in intermittents) cease after a short time. She became alarmed and was induced to take medicine. This state of things continued for two days, when I was called to see her. I found her with high fever, pain in the side, and incessant vomiting, with other symptoms indicating inflammation of the liver. She seemed sensible that she had erred in declining medicine before, and declared her intention to take better care of her health: but alas! this was too late. Her disease continued unaffected by medicine till Wednesday, the 18th, when she expired. She seemed perfectly resigned to whatever was the will of her Heavenly Father; and her expressions, when in her right mind, convince us that her lamp was trimmed and burning, and that she is now enjoying perfect rest from all earthly sorrows.

After spending a week from home with Mrs. Patch, you can judge of my feelings on my return, when I found Mrs. Perkins dangerously ill with yellow fever, and of a type peculiar to this coast. We have always considered this disease the worst the acclimated resident has to contend with; but, by the blessing of God, on the prompt use of proper remedies, the progress of



the disease was checked; and a few weeks nursing and quiet served to restore her to usual health.

During the past dry season, we have *all* suffered from the great heat; but we trust a brighter day is before us, and that our afflictions will be blessed to our spiritual good and to the advancement of the cause of our blessed Redeemer.

Mr. Messenger was attended by Dr. Savage during his last illness, and from him you will hear the particulars of his case."

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#### EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF THE REV. E. W. HENNING.

"You will receive enclosed the continuation of my journal to the 12th April, 1846. I presume that the sheets previously sent by Capt. Lawlin, (January last,) have been received. I have not attempted in my journal to record *every* incident connected with my daily Missionary operations. I have contented myself with selecting from the mass such matter as I suppose would be of interest to the Christian public at home.

Since the death of our lamented associates, (Rev. Mr. Messenger and Mrs. Patch,) there has been much sickness in our Mission. Not *one* has escaped the influences of the climate. All are more or less debilitated, while some are entirely disabled from active duty. I am happy, however, to say that this visitation of an all-wise Providence has produced among us no feeling of despondency, or relaxation of effort. Indeed, when we behold our comrades thus falling by our side, and realize the frail tenure of our own lives, the motive becomes more urgent to do, with 'all our might,' the work which is before us. All that we ask is, that the Church shall remain faithful to her responsibilities. If those whom she has sent forth to lead a forlorn hope, fall with their armor around them, let her commission others for the contest."

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#### EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF THE REV. THOS. S. SAVAGE.

CAPE PALMAS, W. AFRICA, *October 23d*, 1846.

"I am sorry to inform you that I have seen, both in myself and Mrs. Savage, more sickness during the last six months, than ever before within a like period. Indeed, the same remark will hold in respect to every member of the Mission. In my case, however, I think it has arisen more from a diseased liver, and my asthma, which is increasing upon me. Being convinced that my liver was diseased, and believing that I could not expect to have health under such circumstances, while I resided in Africa, I laid my case before the Mission, soliciting their advice. I stated that my disease had not so far advanced that I might not recover with a change of climate, though I could see no probability of recovery so long as I was on the coast; and left it with them to decide whether I should remain till we heard from the Committee, and another should arrive to take my place, (which I preferred to do,) or seek a change of climate at an early date. They were unanimous that I ought not to wait, but change climate immediately. I therefore resigned my stations at Fishtown and Rocktown, and Dr. Perkins was appointed to succeed me, entering at once upon his duties. I am now at Mt. Vaughan, discharging the duties of this station. I have been able to preach every Sabbath, and have made medical visits to Taboo. My disease being chronic, it will not much interfere with the discharge of my duties at this point, during the short time of my stay on the coast.

In leaving Africa this time, I feel it my duty to withdraw from the Mission permanently. I need not speak of the trial involved in this step.

So far I have had no doubts, that in doing so, I am in the path of duty. May the Lord speedily raise up one to take my place, who shall be more faithful, and more useful, than I have been."

FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFICE, N. Y., January 30, 1847.

"It is true, that sickness and death, have sorely tried the Mission in Africa, but the same letters which announce these events, bring also the glad tidings, that through the influences of the Spirit of God, converts from among the heathen are added to the Church. Our Mission in Africa, has far less disaster to contend with than afflicted the Church Missionary Society's Mission at Sierra Leone in its early years. That Mission now numbers its 70 Labourers, 1500 native Communicants, 1500 candidates for Baptism, and 6000 children in the Mission Schools. Why may not our Mission on that coast, add, through God's goodness, in the space of 40 years, as many to the fold of Christ.

"In consequence of the peculiarly trying nature of the African climate, the Foreign Committee have resolved to grant leave to the missionaries on that coast to visit the United States every fourth year. In order to afford this opportunity to those now in office, and to fill the places of those who have been removed by death and illness, the Committee have resolved to send henceforth more ordained missionaries. Happily, there is every prospect that there will soon be found those who will consecrate themselves to this work."

CASH RECEIVED FROM CONTRIBUTIONS, AND FROM SUBSCRIPTIONS  
TO THE COLONIZATION JOURNAL, DURING THE PAST MONTH.

Jno. Landstreet,	\$10 00	F. W. Brune,	\$5 00	J. Simms,	\$2 00
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TERMS.

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